



H.Con.Res. 385 – Condemning the attack on the AMIA Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in July 1994, and for other purposes

FLOOR SITUATION

H.Con.Res. 385 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL) on June 26, 2008. The resolution was referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, but was never considered.

H.Con.Res. 385 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on July 15, 2008.

SUMMARY

H.Con.Res. 385 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- Reiterates its strongest condemnation of the 1994 attack on the Argentine Jewish Mutual Association (AMIA) Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires, Argentina, honors the victims of this attack, and expresses its sympathy to the relatives of the victims;
- Applauds the Government of Argentina for increasing the pace of the AMIA bombing investigation and for enacting counter-terrorism legislation;
- Urges the Government of Argentina to continue to dedicate and provide the resources necessary for its judicial system and intelligence agencies to investigate all areas of the AMIA case and to prosecute those responsible;
- Commends the General Assembly of the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) for upholding and issuing the Red Notices supported by the Executive Committee of INTERPOL in March 2007;
- Expresses grave concern regarding the Government of Saudi Arabia's failure, when given the opportunity, to detain Iranian officials against whom Argentine arrest warrants or INTERPOL Red Notices are pending in connection with the AMIA case;
- Urges all nations to cooperate fully with the AMIA investigation, including by making information, witnesses, and suspects available for review and questioning by the appropriate Argentine authorities, and by detaining and extraditing to Argentina, if given the opportunity, any persons against whom Argentine arrest warrants or INTERPOL Red Notices are pending in connection with the AMIA case, including Iranian officials and former officials, Hezbollah operatives, and Islamist militants;
- Encourages the President to direct United States law enforcement agencies to provide support and cooperation to the Government of Argentina, if requested, for the purposes of deepening and expanding the investigation into the AMIA bombing; and
- Urges governments in the Western Hemisphere, who have not done so already, to draft, adopt, and implement legislation designating Hezbollah as a terrorist organization, banning fundraising and recruitment activities, and applying the harshest penalties on those providing support for activities involving Hezbollah and other such Islamist terrorist organizations



LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

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BACKGROUND

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This year marks the 14th anniversary of the July 18, 1994 bombing of the Argentine Jewish Mutual Association (AMIA) which killed 85 people and wounded 300 others. The AMIA is a Jewish community center located in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

STAFF CONTACT

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